

# MANAGER NABS BANDIT

## Subdues Thief, Seizes Weapon

A gun blazed, fists flew, and when the smoke cleared, a bandit, rather than a theater manager, found himself cornered and looking down the business end of a revolver.

However, neither the bandit nor the manager knew until police arrived and the bandit was under arrest that all the bullets had been fired during the fight and that the revolver was empty.

Arrested on suspicion of armed robbery was Louis A. Baca, 32, of 21202 Borza street, Torrance.

Victims were Fred Chance, 51, manager of the Torrance Drive Inn Theatre and Leonardo Cicoria, 64, janitor.

Baca was apparently loitering around the office building midnight Monday. He talked to Cicoria and then approached the office where he asked admission, according to Lennox sheriff's station.

Chance opened the door and the suspect asked if there was any work for him.

**Pulls Gun**  
When Chance replied that there wasn't, the suspect allegedly pulled a gun from his belt and ordered both inside.

He allegedly asked where the safe was and demanded the key, which Chance gave him. Baca then tied both up with four and six-foot long wire which he had brought with him.

Opening the safe, he took out two bags, poured the money on the floor, discovered that the bags contained \$700, and then put the money back inside.

He then told Chance that he believed there was another safe and that he was going to take the manager to the cashier's office. Chance denied that there was another safe but Baca allegedly told him that he would kill him for lying if he found the safe.

**Punches Suspect**  
As he untied Chance, the manager, a former prize fighter, wheeled around and punched Baca in the face, according to Det. Capt. Ernie Ashton of the Torrance Police Department.

The two men began to fight and wrestle with each other. Chance picked up a small elec-

## 12 Candidates In School Board Race

Deadline for filing candidacy in the approaching School Board elections yesterday showed a total of nine new candidates and three incumbents entering the race, election officials reported.

New candidates include: Howard Percy of 821 Fonthill, realtor; John Kesson of 2015 West 182nd st., independent oil producer; Don Brunet of 101 Via Monte de Oro; Cecil E. Alte of 2220 Arlington ave., realtor and Dr. Warren H. Low of 2806 El Dorado, optometrist.

Others are: W. C. Boswell, Jr., assistant head of publications in the field service department for North American Airlines, Inc.; Dr. Eleanor Z. Thill optometrist; Mrs. Nancy Carpenter, 1014 Kornblom; and Clair Olsen, member of the Recreation commission.

Incumbents are: Mrs. Grace Wright, housewife and former teacher; J. G. Arnold, purchasing agent for Chicago Bridge and Iron; and Darwin D. Parrish, owner of Parrish Stationers.

**Election Day**  
The election will be held on Friday, May 18. At this time, three members will be elected.

Each elementary and high school in the district will be a polling place and one will be at the El Retiro Park recreation building. Two other polling places will be at 5036 Jacques st. in the Southwood Home area and at 5305 Carol Drive in Seaside Rancho area, officials stated.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Registration to vote in the election was closed on March 25.

Between the dates of April 28 and May 11, voters may apply in writing to L.A. County Superintendent of Schools, 808 North Hills st. for "Absent Voter Ballots."

## Shoestring Improvements Scheduled

Bids for another major street improvement project in the Los Angeles Shoestring Strip will be received by the city's Board of Public Works next Wednesday, April 25, it was announced today by Councilman John S. Gibson who also is president of the council.

Gibson said the new improvement would include 224th street from Western avenue to Halldale and Halldale avenue from 222nd street to 225th street and a block on Harvard Blvd. from 224th street to Plaza Del Amo. Sidewalks are also scheduled for construction.

With work progressing steadily on 227th st. from Western avenue to the dead end east of Denker st., Councilman Gibson predicted an end to the summer time dust menace that has harassed strip residents for many years.

Councilman Gibson will report on the latest status of these improvements at the regular meeting of his advisory committee at Normandie playground on May 1, and at the same time will introduce Richard.

## \$105,000 Damage Suit Filed In Brick Wall Accident

A \$105,000 damage suit has been brought against the contractors allegedly responsible for the construction of a masonry wall which collapsed and seriously injured a 3-year-old boy two weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Johnson, of 7219 Atkinson street, parents of 3-year-old Thomas Johnson who was injured, have filed the suit against Arthur Warner who allegedly employed Richard Saunders, a licensed building and masonry contractor, to install the garden wall.

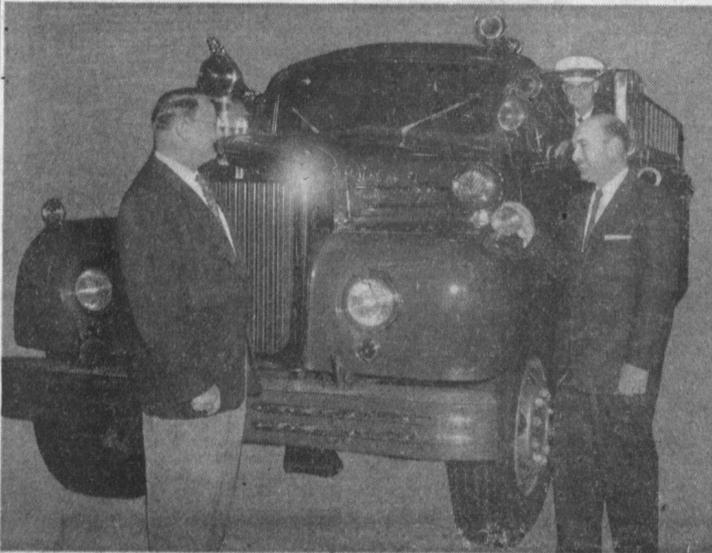
The little boy suffered a decomposition of the skull, a broken leg, and bruises when the wall collapsed on him.

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# Jahn Picks Up 36 'Lost' Votes, Increases Margin from 20 to 51



**TRIPLE COMBINATION PUMPER**  
This new triple combination pumper which arrived last week gives the Torrance Fire Department a total of seven pumpers now. Complete with 4000 feet of hose, a 35 ft. ladder, and other equipment, the pumper cost \$33,550. Inspecting it are (l-r) City Manager George Stevens, Paul Hamilton of the Mack Motor Truck corp., and Fire Chief J. J. Benner.—Press Photo

## Ensminger To Assume Post For Hospital

Leonard Ensminger has been approved as administrator by Board of directors of Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital. He will succeed Miss Elsa Hammerstrom who has resigned.

The approval was announced at the recent annual meeting of the Torrance Hospital association.

Ensminger will assume his duties on May 1.

The membership voted to increase the number of board members from 12 to 15.

## Man Found Dead In Car

While walking her dog Monday, a woman noticed a suspicious car in the middle of the field. Police, upon being notified, investigated the report and found a man inside who had committed suicide by means of carbon monoxide.

Dead is Melvin S. Warner, 1613 Gates avenue, Manhattan Beach. The car was standing in a field north of Pearl and east of Susana. It was first noticed by Barbara Stanat of 26130 Linda drive while walking her dog.

## Press Brings Results—Rain Or Shine

Come rain or come shine, Torrance Press classified ads get results! Despite the fact that it was raining last week, Mrs. Russell Bradford of 2921 El Dorado, who placed the following ad in the Press, found out that people wait eagerly for the Press:

**BLONDE BABY CRIB & mattress. Excellent condition. \$15. Phone FA 8-8877.**  
"The rain didn't make any difference," she said. "I had 30 calls and sold the crib and mattress first thing in the morning."  
So, for fast results the inexpensive way, call FA 8-2345—today!

## EDITORIAL PRESS ENTERS EIGHTH YEAR

This week the Torrance Press enters its eighth year of service to the community.

During this time the Torrance Press has taken the leadership in news coverage and advertising in this area.

We are proud of our long list of accomplishments which include: the elimination of pinball machines; the passing of stricter laws governing sumps and oil fields; the removal of the city dump from a residential area; a seven-year campaign to obtain a municipal court which has been accomplished; a campaign for the Torrance armory which has been realized; passage of a rabies law; advocating pay for city councilmen which the voters approved this month; exposing irregularities in city government; supporting bond issues for recreation, the new civic center, a swimming pool, police and fire protection; keeping a close watch on local school administration; and acting as a constant watchdog for the community.

The Torrance Press has always been your newspaper. We feel that we have been successful because you, our readers, have always felt a part of this newspaper.

The publishers and staff of the Torrance Press are proud to play a part in the growth and development of Torrance.

## State Program Considered To Halt Double Sessions

Because the problem of double sessions continues to be acute, the Torrance Unified School District is considering entering the State program for financial assistance, it was revealed at the Board of Education meeting Tuesday night.

"We now have over 5000 pupils on double sessions," Sam Waldrip, assistant superintendent, business, told the board. "We are building seven new elementary schools. When these schools are completed and occupied, we shall still have over 4000 pupils on double session, due to growth."

"Our gain in bonding capacity might handle the high school building needs," he continued. "But it will not handle the needs at both levels (high school and elementary). We must, therefore, examine the State Loan program very carefully, since the program offers the only means by which the building needs of the District can be met."

Torrance voters will be the ones to decide if this should be done, it was pointed out. Such an election would be called around September.

In the past the local District has avoided the State program because the State program was

## Man Shoots Himself Over Health

Apparently despondent over ill health, Earl Vosburg, 63, of 1939 Pacific Coast highway, shot himself shortly before noon Thursday.

He was discovered lying on the floor of his trailer home, a German automatic and an expended shell lying near him.

Some personal papers and a notebook with a notation, "Mrs. R. H. Sanny, 1415 Third avenue, Worthington, Minnesota," was found on the top of the TV set.

He was discovered by Mrs. Mary L. Weddle, 60, who lives in the trailer park and who has been caring for him.

Mrs. Weddle told Lennox sheriffs that Vosburg had talked of suicide for some weeks. He was a retired Navy veteran and had been in ill health two years.

He was recently released from the Long Beach Naval hospital, where he had stayed seven months and had a lung removed.

"I am going to end the whole thing this afternoon," Vosburg allegedly told Mrs. Weddle at 11:20 a.m. Thursday. She went away to call his physician, who made arrangements to have him return to the Long Beach hospital.

When she came back to the trailer a few minutes past noon to tell Vosburg of the arrangements, she found him dead.

Mrs. Sanny is Vosburg's daughter.

## ISEN ELECTED MAYOR AGAIN

Bob Jahn, who captured the third City Council seat by a narrow 20-point margin last week, settled back comfortably this week with a 51-vote lead over Walter A. Garrabrant following the official council canvassing of the vote.

The council spent over four tedious hours processing the absentee ballots and checking the individual precinct tabulations.

Six of the 26 absentee ballots were challenged and disqualified on the grounds of certain technical violations. Of the 20 ballots, Jahn mustered four more votes while Garrabrant gained nine.

This reduced Jahn's original 20-vote lead to a 15-vote lead.

As the council began processing the individual precincts, they discovered nine precincts whose totals did not coincide with the tally sheets the council had.

Only one of those nine precincts showed a significant difference in votes. Precinct 63 showed that Jahn had received 40 votes. However, when the precinct reported to the city hall election night, the figure was misunderstood when it was read and recorded as four votes.

Thus Jahn picked up 36 more votes Tuesday night, giving him a total 51-vote edge over Garrabrant (36 plus 15).

Minor discrepancies were found in precincts 73, 69, 38, 37, 76, 85-B, 89, 100.

The wide margin makes it less likely that Garrabrant will ask for a recount, as announced earlier, observers feel.

**Isen Re-elected Mayor**  
After Drale, Benstead, and Jahn were sworn into office, the council reelected Albert Isen to the position of mayor by a 3-2 vote.

Isen was opposed by Councilmen Willys Blount and Nick Drale.

"I would like to qualify my vote," Drale stated. "I have believed in the policy of giving every member of the council the opportunity to be mayor. When a councilman has served one year as mayor he should vacate the office and give someone else the opportunity."

**Schwab Honored**  
Before Councilman Mervin Schwab turned over his seat to newly elected Councilman Bob Jahn, Mayor Albert Isen presented the outgoing councilman with an electric desk clock from the members of the council.

"I am speaking for the entire council," Isen said.

## HIT-RUN SUSPECT CAUGHT

A man was booked on suspicion of hit-and-run driving after a passing motorist, who allegedly saw the driver hit an 8-year-old child chased the suspect's car for a mile and forced the driver back to the scene of the accident.

Booked on the charge was Russell C. Miller, 23, of La Mesa. The boy, George W. Lyden, 8, of 18408 Yukon, only received minor injuries, according to police.

Miller was chased by Carl C. Greenwood, who caught up with him at 203rd street and made Miller return to the scene of the accident.

## NARBONNE FIRE LOSS \$37,500

Instruction continued as usual at Narbonne high school Monday despite the fact that a \$37,500 fire believed to have been set by arsonists Saturday damaged the fine arts room, student store, and two other areas of the main building.

The \$37,500 figure is official, Principal Herbert Morey stated. Morey said that the student body was incensed on hearing about the act of vandalism.

A lot of the damage has already been repaired, Morey stated, while other damage can wait until summer vacation to be taken care of (such as the student store).

Matches found at the scene of the blaze served as positive evidence that arsonists were involved. The fire started shortly after 8 Saturday morning.



**PLAYING SOLDIER**  
UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYE of soldier-brother Private Dave Conroy (left), six-year-old Tommy simulates firing a .30 caliber machine gun at an open house of Company A, 2nd Infantry Regiment, where Dave is undergoing basic training. At right is father, Edward Conroy, 2430 Lesserman Street, Torrance, who brought the family to visit Dave at the Open House display of weapons and equipment.